

SENATE CONFIRMS D. C. HEADS AFTER COMMISSIONERS AGREE

Report Favoring Oyster and Rudolph as Commissioners Is Unanimous.

OPPOSITION HAVE CHANCE TO PRESENT OBJECTIONS

Nominees Make Sworn Statements They Do Not Own Stock in Public Utilities.

The nominations of Cuno Rudolph and Capt. James F. Oyster to be District Commissioners were confirmed by the Senate today.

This action was taken following a favorable report upon both the nominees by the Senate District Committee. The committee acted unanimously in recommending their confirmation after a hearing at which both opponents and supporters of the nominees were given an opportunity to testify.

When the nominations were reported to the Senate they were approved practically without debate and without a roll call.

During the hearing preliminary to the committee's report, Edward F. Coffey, republican national committee chairman for the District, presented sworn statements from both Mr. Rudolph and Capt. Oyster stating that neither owned stock in any public utilities.

W. B. Westlake for Delay.

W. B. Westlake, president of the Federation of Citizens' Associations, was the first witness appearing in opposition to the immediate confirmation of Capt. Oyster and Mr. Rudolph. At the outset he said that he appeared as a private citizen and not as president of the federation. He said, however, that several citizens had asked him to appear.

The committee should get the sentiment of the people of the District and not the sentiment of a few influential members of various civic organizations," said Mr. Westlake. "I am not opposing these men, but they are persons who oppose their confirmation. They should be heard. The committee should take due time in dealing with this matter of so much importance."

Mr. Westlake said that "the people" in the District were restless, that "red meetings" were being held, and that too hasty action would tend to increase this restlessness.

Senator Pomeroy of Ohio interrupted with several questions about red propaganda in the District, and how it affected the question of the confirmation of Mr. Rudolph and Capt. Oyster.

Mr. Westlake insisted that there was a feeling among some people in the District that the nominees were spreading propaganda, and that it was making for restlessness. He added that from 1,000 to 1,500 people had signed a petition for a referendum on the subject of spreading red propaganda, because they believed that the official heads of the government were spreading it.

"If these employees of the government are spreading red propaganda," said Senator Pomeroy, "I agree with that," said Mr. Westlake.

Relations With Railways.

Mr. Westlake said that it had been rumored quietly that the nominees for District Commissioners were interested in the street railways, and that he urged that the matter be looked into. Any one who had relations with the street railways and who was permitted to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission.

Senator Pomeroy asked that any one who was financially interested in the street railways, under the law, would not be permitted to serve as a public utility commissioner.

"Do you know if these nominees are financially interested in the street railways?" Senator Pomeroy asked the witness.

"Personally, I do not," replied Mr. Westlake. "I think the matter should be looked into by the committee."

The next witness was E. W. Oyster, who said that he had been a resident of the District for twenty years, although he was born in Pennsylvania. His objection was devoted largely to the confirmation of Mr. Rudolph. He told the committee that he had been much interested in the rum conditions in Washington, and that he had written a letter to the board of commissioners, asking for a hearing. He said that he was put off week to week, although he was promised a hearing, and that finally on May 17, he received a letter asking him to submit in writing what he had to say, and assuring that the commissioners were very familiar with the question.

"You come here," said Senator Dillingham, "because you did not get a hearing, and because you did not like Mr. Rudolph."

Mr. Oyster said that he considered Mr. Rudolph a "valet man" and that he did not want to see him Commissioner.

Statement Was Not Sent.

"Did you submit your statement in writing?" asked Senator New.

"No, I didn't want to waste my time writing paper which I knew would be pigeon-holed."

"Are you related to Capt. Oyster?" asked Senator New.

"I have been asked that question many times," said Mr. Oyster. "When any one asks me, I refer him to Capt. Oyster, and when any one asks Capt. Oyster, he refers him to me. I do not care whether I am third cousin or a thirty-third cousin."

Senator Dillingham said that he recalled making an investigation of the nominees, and that he had been told by the committee and that legislation had been required to meet the situation.

"The committee's opposition to what you and I were working for in that connection?" asked Senator Dillingham.

Mr. Oyster said they did not.

A. D. Fairbairn urged the committee to delay action until it could make a proper investigation of the charge that the nominees for District Commissioners were interested in the street railways. He said that the various associations in the District had had no time to get together, and while various representatives of the various associations had given their indorsements to Capt. Oyster and Mr. Rudolph, he did not think that they knew the real sentiment of the ordinary citizen as well as he did.

Statement Is Read.

He read to the committee a statement continued on Page 2, Column 4.

JAPAN NOT IN YAP ACTION, BUT WILSON WAS, TOKIO STATES

Official Leaders Deny They Were Responsible for Supreme Council Act.

ASSERT THAT AMERICA'S QUARREL IS WITH LEAGUE

Records Are Declared to Make No Reference to Reservation When Mandate Was Taken Up.

BY JUNIUS B. WOOD.

By Cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News. Copyright, 1921.

TOKIO, Japan, March 14.—The Japanese government in connection with the Yap controversy disclaims responsibility for the action of the supreme council in placing the former German islands in the Pacific under Japanese and British mandates.

This was the assertion made today by a representative of the foreign office here. It was also stated that on the assumption that Japan was directly a party to that action, America's controversy was now with the league of nations and not with Japan. For this reason the government considers that the criticism made by some Americans that Japan is opposing the wishes of the United States is unfair.

"We have the secretary's report of the session of the supreme council on May 7, 1919," said the foreign office representative to the writer. "Those present were President Wilson, Premier Clemenceau, Premier Lloyd George and Premier Orlando. Japan had no representative in the supreme council and consequently had no voice in the decision awarding the German islands in the Pacific under mandate to Japan. The copy of the document in our possession seems to show that President Wilson agreed to the decision. It does not show that he entered any exception as to Yap."

Rests on Official Record.

When the correspondent suggested the possibility that an objection had been made but that the secretary had failed to record it, the official replied:

"Japan, not being represented in the council, is unable to go beyond the official record of what happened."

The present controversy recalls the practice followed by the foreign office in deliberating upon the peace terms. It was considered ludicrous at the time, the serious consequences of the being foreseen. Stenographers were excluded from the sessions of the supreme council of American mission, armistice terms. Some of the other bodies which later negotiated the treaty in reference to medieval Europe, the peace terms were not to be taken at the sessions by certain trusted persons deemed worthy of hearing the great secretaries. These secretaries recorded such portions of the proceedings as they individually considered important. The longhand notes after careful revision becoming the official record.

EUGENE MEYER.

Die of War Weeks. Col. Wainwright and the President. Secretary Weeks and Col. Wainwright afterward spent an hour or so together in the former's office in the War Department, during which time they discussed the more important matters of the department, especially as they will come under the new assistant secretary.

Wainwright Has Fine Record.

Col. Wainwright is known to be a man of wide military experience and had the backing of Senators Wadsworth and Caidor of New York and is personally known to the new War Secretary. He was a colonel and inspector on the staff of Maj. Gen. John F. O'Rourke during the war, and served with distinction in the Philippines. He was a managing director in the War Finance Corporation. He first became a director of the corporation in April, 1918, and was named director in March, 1919, until the corporation was dissolved a year ago.

Harvey's Selection Assured.

The news was indicated at the White House this afternoon that the name of Col. George Harvey, the New York editor, would be sent to the Senate for confirmation. But those in a position to know said that Col. Harvey's selection was assured.

Explosion Wrecks Magazine at Alabama Coal Mines.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 14.—Birmingham and the country for fifty miles around were shaken at 6:30 o'clock this morning by an explosion in the magazine of the Dolomite mine. The explosion was heard in the Birmingham area, and the magazine was a complete wreck. County authorities announced after a preliminary investigation that the explosion was evidently the work of incendiaries.

Today's News in Paragraphs

Senate confirms Rudolph and Oyster as District Commissioners. Page 1.

President Harding fills three more important government positions. Page 1.

Kutz again delays gas rate hearing. Page 1.

The British naval estimates show a reduction of about two million pounds from last year. Page 1.

Protesters pour into White House over choice of Harvey for London. Page 1.

Doctors expose selves to infection to study course of diseases. Page 1.

Heads of four railways were summoned to testify by the Labor Board over response to the request of a union. Page 2.

Booths in banks, stores and hotels assist charity drive. Page 2.

Young woman's mutilated body found floating in river. Page 4.

Russian children are provided for in great garden system. Page 13.

Former Kaiser in book tells of his effort to form league. Page 18.

Animal ship from Germany to resemble "Nation-wide back-to-travel movement" is reported. Page 13.

Queen Marie of Rumania to visit United States. Page 13.

Bolsheviks recapture Russian fortress. Page 13.

Secretary of Labor Davis pushes plans to adjust wage crisis between packers and employees. Page 16.

Norwegians attack unity of Scandinavian kingdoms. Page 16.

More than 800,000 lives have been saved by American contributions for relief of famine sufferers in China. Page 17.

20 BOLSHEVIST DIVISIONS ADVANCE ON POLAND

By The Associated Press.

STOCKHOLM, March 14.—The Aftonbladet's Riga correspondent says today that from eighteen to twenty bolshevik divisions, with artillery and an aviation corps, are advancing against Poland in the districts of Smolensk, Vitebsk, Orsha, Mohilev and north of those places.

Near Polotsk, northwest of Vitebsk, cavalry divisions with light artillery are advancing with the object of a rapid attack in the direction of Vilna, the correspondent adds.

A London dispatch of March 11, in quoting Riga advices as reporting the recovery from his illness of Adolf Hoffe, head of the Russian peace delegation in Riga, said the Russo-Polish peace conference would be recommended by the possibility of peace being signed by Easter.

PROSPECT HURRIES FOES OF LEAGUE

Report of Proposed Overtures From France Disturbs Irreconcilables in Senate.

The irreconcilables in the Senate hear authoritatively, so they say, that France, speaking for the other first-class powers in the league of nations, will shortly notify President Harding that the United States will be welcomed into the league of nations on its own terms. This information, coupled with the additional information that President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes will give the French proposal careful consideration, is causing some unrest among those who are opposed to the league.

The opponents of the Versailles treaty and the league are already genuinely concerned over the prospect of the administration being impressed with the invitation that is being made. Some of the more extreme, so they say, that Ambassador Jusserand has already broached the subject of the league in his conversations he has had with Secretary Hughes in the last few days, and if he has brought up the subject, even in an informal way, the State Department has made no mention of the fact. It is presumed that Rene Viviani, French premier, who will shortly sail for the United States, will be the messenger to carry the invitation to the United States, with most at stake and as the spokesman for the allies, has to present to the American government.

It is regarded as interesting, whether significant or not, that within ten days after the new regime took office in Washington, the question of whether the league of nations is dead so far as the United States is concerned should be raised, and raised in such a way as to make the irreconcilable senators prick up their ears.

Leas Talk of New Association.

There is not as much talk about a new association of nations as there was—an association that would be a substitute for the league of nations. Now that the responsibility for action rests with the republicans there is noted a freer disposition to take action. The new association would be a substitute for the league of nations. The league covenant is, of course, bound up with the Versailles treaty. Many republicans are, therefore, in favor of the United States being influential enough to kill the league have overhauled the treaty.

The men who must now handle the situation for the United States know that the league is dead. They are not, however, in favor of the league. The men who must now handle the situation for the United States know that the league is dead. They are not, however, in favor of the league. The men who must now handle the situation for the United States know that the league is dead. They are not, however, in favor of the league.

Problem of the Administration.

The really difficult problem of the new administration is to do what it would like to do about the treaty and the league without helping Germany to win the war—win it even at this late day.

The republican members of the foreign relations committee were confident until recently that (1) the Versailles treaty would never receive the approval of the Senate, (2) that the Knox resolution of June 9, 1919, for a separate peace with Germany could be adopted and adopted at an extra session of Congress to be held this spring and (3) that the last had been heard of the possibility of the United States becoming a member of the league of nations.

The entire program of the republican members of the foreign relations committee has been upset by recent developments. The committee as a whole and the Senate as a whole would not touch the Knox resolution at the present time. The friends of that resolution express the hope that shortly after the opening of the special session the situation in Europe may clear up so as to make it expedient for the Congress to put the resolution through.

Early Decision Not Expected.

As the time for the extra session approaches the impression that the administration is not likely to reach a decision with respect to the treaty-league situation for many months has been growing. The impression is that the administration is not likely to reach a decision with respect to the treaty-league situation for many months has been growing. The impression is that the administration is not likely to reach a decision with respect to the treaty-league situation for many months has been growing.

Expected to Be Acceptable.

If these were normal times the British government would decline to accept Col. Harvey because of his anti-British attitude, but every bit of information available here indicates that Great Britain will not make an issue over the appointment and will accept the distinguished author with out protest.

Col. Harvey became very close to Mr. Harding during the latter part of the summer at Marion. He is credited with the authorship of a large part of the famous speech wherein Mr. Harding turned his back on the league of nations. It was just prior to that speech that Mr. Root cabled from London urging Mr. Harding not to say that the present league was a disaster. The cablegram, it is said, was written by Mr. Root.

Those who figured in the tests were at all times exposed to infectious diseases of all sorts. From the tests it is clear that repeated swabbing of throats, palates and the nose with a solution of boric acid is of no value. The importance of the data depended upon the completeness and thus upon frequency of making tests. The work extended over many months. It took four hours to handle each plate upon which the organisms had been "inched."

Doctors Exposed to Infections to Study Course of Diseases

By The Associated Press.

BALTIMORE, Md., March 14.—In studying mouth and throat disease germs physicians of the bacteriological department of Johns Hopkins Hospital have personally submitted to repeated tests during the past year, according to a report compiled by Dr. A. S. Bloomfield. As a result of these tests, Dr. Bloomfield concludes that disease germs are all the time coming and going, and that the normal surfaces of the air passages afford a very unfavorable environment for foreign organisms to colonize and develop a real diseased condition.

BRITISH REDUCE CAPITAL SHIPS FROM 20 TO 16

Naval Estimates Announced by the First Lord of Admiralty.

UNUSUAL RISKS TAKEN. DECLARED BY LORD LEE

Amount Recommended Is £82,479,000 Net, About Two Millions Less Than Last Year.

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, March 14.—The British naval estimates for 1921-22 amount to £91,186,869 gross and £82,479,000 net. It was announced today by Lord Lee of Farnham, first lord of admiralty.

In a statement explaining the estimates Lord Lee said they were based on the gross weight of main armaments of 12,000 tons, and that the "one-power standard" was maintained. "It is the duty of the admiralty to carry out that policy as economically as possible," Lord Lee's statement continued, "giving full weight to the special geographical, international and other considerations which have arisen since the war. This they are doing, and the machinery of the admiralty is working with the utmost efficiency to the lowest limits compatible with national security. The admiralty have included a reduction in the number of capital ships in full commission from twenty to sixteen, as compared with the number in 1914, and the smallest number that will enable the essential sea-going technical training of officers and men to be carried out properly."

Other changes announced by Lord Lee are the placing in reserve of one of the four destroyer flotillas of the Atlantic fleet, reduction of the North American and South African squadrons by one light cruiser each, complete temporary withdrawal of the South American squadrons and the reduction of the personnel of the fleet during 1921 to 121,700 men, as compared with 127,000 in 1920.

These changes, dictated almost entirely by the need of economy, according to Lord Lee, will enable the admiralty to maintain a reduced Navy in a state of the highest possible efficiency. In pursuance of this policy eight battleships, armed with twelve-inch guns, now in reserve, will be transferred to the disposable list.

The number of capital ships on the effective list will thus be reduced to 16, and the number of destroyers to 10. The number of capital ships on the effective list will thus be reduced to 16, and the number of destroyers to 10. The number of capital ships on the effective list will thus be reduced to 16, and the number of destroyers to 10.

Reduction From Last Year.

LONDON, March 12.—The navy estimates will show a reduction of some millions of pounds on the net estimate for the last financial year, which was £85,522,300, according to the forecast of the "Financial Times."

There is a reduction of possibly £10,000,000, and understands that, following upon the findings of the subcommittee of the committee on imperial defense, the government has decided in principle that the capital ship must continue to be the main unit of an effective fleet.

The correspondent refers to the estimates as embodying a moderate program, and says it would hardly be possible to spend more money on the navy than the government is willing to do. He declares that expert opinion tends strongly to the view that delay in the construction of the new "pocket battleships" would not be justified, owing to the necessity of utilizing the material in advance and utilizing the lessons of the war.

CAPPS QUILTS AT ATHENS.

American Minister on Year's Leave From Princeton Ends Term.

By The Associated Press.

ATHENS, March 14.—Edward Capps, American minister to Greece, retired from his post yesterday, turning over the legation to Barton Hall, the first secretary, who will act as chargé d'affaires until the arrival of Mr. Capps' successor.

Universal regret over the retirement of Mr. Capps is expressed in Athens, as he has been extremely popular and has shown an intimate knowledge of the country, language and customs thoroughly.

Greek royalist circles his resignation is interpreted as the first step toward recognition of King Constantine by the new United States administration. Mr. Capps, who is professor of Greek at Princeton University, has been in this country on a year's leave of absence, and is expected to return to America within a month.

WALLACES ARE HONORED.

Ambassador and Wife to Attend House Party in England.

PARIS, March 14.—Hugh C. Wallace, the American ambassador, and Mrs. Wallace and their niece, Miss Sally Beecher, will leave here tomorrow to attend a house party which is to be given by Lord and Lady Derby at Kewley, in Lancashire, England. The principal guests at the house party will be King George and Queen Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace and their niece will be absent from Paris for three days.